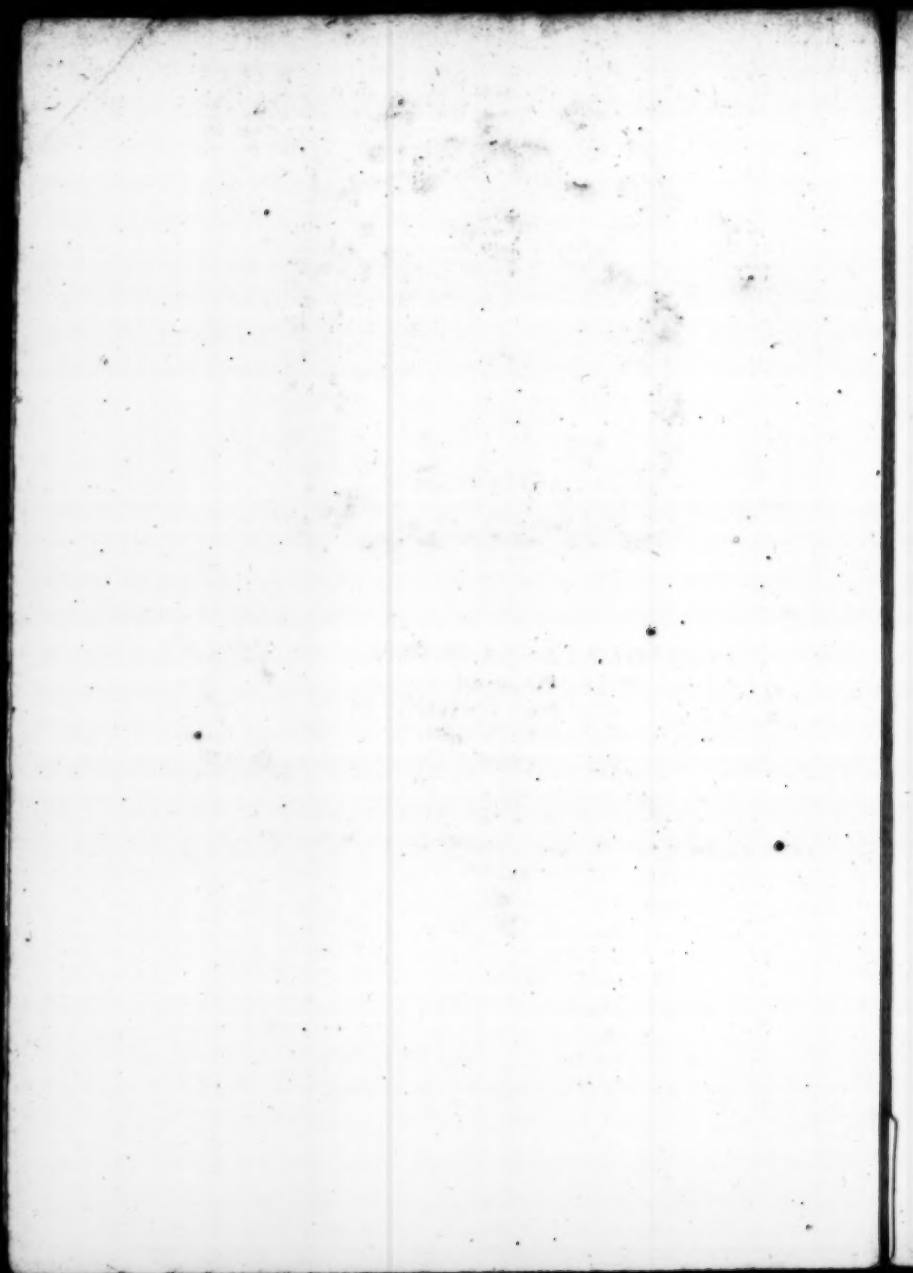


IXOYOOHPA,
OR,
The Royal Trade
OF
FISHING.
DISCOVERING

The inestimable Profit the *Hollan-*
ders have made thereof, with the
vast Emolument and Advantages that
will redound to his Sacred *Majesty*
and his three Kingdoms by the
Improvement of it.

Now seasonably published by Command
for the Benefit of the Nation.

L O N D O N,
Printed by J. F. for R. Royston Bookseller to
his most Sacred MAJESTY.
MDCXLII. 1661. (p. 2. 4. 3.)





CHARLES the Second, by the Grace of
God, King of England, Scotland, France
and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c.
To all to whom these presents shall
come greeting. Know ye that We out
of Our Princely Care, tending as well to the
Publike Weal of Our Kingdoms, as the private
Commodity of Our Subjects, have diligently
looked into and observed the great plenty of
Fish, wherewith the Seas, Estuaries or Inlets,
Creeks, Arms of the Sea, publike Rivers,
Hooks and Lakes of Our Dominions, and the
Fishes thereunto belonging, by the blessing of
Almighty God both abound; and how great profits
unto Our Subjects, and increase of strength unto
Our Sea Forces, as well in times of War as
Peace, may from thence arise; what an ease it will
be

be to Our Kingdoms, to have Lazie and Idle
 people set on worke, and Trained up in the
 Trade of Fishing, whereby they may be able to
 relieve themselves, and have much Merchandize
 and Traffick may in their industry be improved;
 And having also with the Advice of the Council of
 Our Kingdom, weighed as well the publike as
 private Commodity, and all other consequences
 thereof, if Our Subj^{ts} shall diligently, seriously,
 and effectually employ their care and pains to the
 use and improvement of Fishing; And for other
 urgent Reasons and Causes As hereunto mo-
 ving, have nominated and constituted, and by these
 presents, We do make, constitute, ordain and
 appoint, Our dearest and most entirely beloved
 Brother, James Duke of York, and our right Trusty
 and right welbeloved Cousins and Counsellors,
 Edward Earl of Hereford, Our high Chancelor of
 England, Thomas Earl of Southampton Our high
 Treasurer of England, and likewise Our right
 trusty and right welbeloved Councellor John Lord
 Robert Lord Darcy Seal, and also Our right trusty
 and right welbeloved Cousin Charles Duke of
 Richmond and Lenox, and Our right trusty and
 right welbeloved Cousins and Councellors George
 Duke of Albemarle Lord General of all Our Forces,
 James Duke of Armon Lord Steward of Our
 Household, Henry Marquis Dorchester, Montague Earl
 of Lyndsey Lord great Chamberlain of England, and
 also Our right trusty and right welbeloved Cousin
 and Councellor Edward Earl of Manchester Lord
 Chamberlain of Our Household, and also Our
 right trusty and welbeloved Cousin Anthony Earl
 of Oxford, and Our right trusty and right welbe-
 loved Cousin and Councellor Algernon Earl of
 Northumberland, and also Our trusty and right
 welbeloved Cousins, William Earl of Bedford,
 Philip Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, Theophilus
 Earl

Earl of Lincoln, and also Our right trusty and
 right welbelovèd Cousin and Councellor Robert
 Earl of Leicester, and also Our trusty and right
 welbelovèd Cousins James Earl of Suffolk, James
 Earl of Marleborough, Jerome Earl of Portland, and
 also Our right trusty and right welbelovèd Cou-
 sins and Councellors George Earl of Norwich, Ed-
 ward Earle of Sandwich, Arthur Earl of Anglesey, and
 also Our trusty and right welbelovèd George Lord
 Berkley of Berkley, Francis Lord Willoughby of Parham,
 William Lord Craven, John Lord Berkley of Stratton, and
 also Our right trusty and right welbelovèd Coun-
 cellor Denzill Lord Hollis, Frederick Lord Cornewallis
 Treasurer of Our Household, and also Our trusty
 and right welbelovèd Horace Lord Townesend, and
 also Our right trusty and welbelovèd Councellors
 Anthony Lord Ashley, Sir Charles Berkley Knight,
 Comptroller of Our Household, Sir George Carteret
 Knight, Alice Chamberlain of Our Household, Sir
 Edward Nicholas Knight, one of Our principal Se-
 cretaries of State, Sir William Morice Knight,
 another of Our principal Secretaries of State,
 and likewise Our right trusty and welbelovèd Sir
 Isack Palmer Knight and Baronet Our Attorney
 General, and Sir Heneage Finch Knight and Baro-
 net Our Solicitor General, to be the Council of
 the Royal Fishing of Great Britain and Ireland, of
 which We Our selves and Successors will vouch-
 safe ever to be and be called Protectors; And we
 Grant Licence and Liberty that the Council and
 their Successors for the time being, as oft as to
 them or any four of them, it shall seem expedient,
 may and shall from time to time in such places,
 meet and make Assemblies, Elect, Constitute, and
 Depute Officers and Ministers, such as shall be
 necessary for their service, and consult and debate
 of the business and affairs of the said Fishing, and
 make, appoint, ordain and publish Lawes, Ord-

nances and Statutes whatsoever concerning their
 Minsters, Serbantes, Fishermen, Mariners,
 Masters, Factors, and others imployed about the
 businels of the Fishing, and the same as oft as
 it shall seem necessary to them, Change, Revoke,
 Correct and Substitute other Ordinances in their
 stead, and enioyn pecuniary multes or paines of
 imprisonment to be inflicted according to the qua-
 lity of the offence on such as contemn or violate
 the same, and to new evils arising (wanting
 amendment) to apply a new remedy fit and agree-
 able to reason, when and as often as it shall seem
 expedient to them, yet so as those Laws, Ordinan-
 ces and Statutes be by Us and Our heirs ratified
 and approved before they take force; And also they
 shall and may in like manner put the said Statutes
 in due execution, and punish (according to the said
 Statutes, Laws, and Ordinances, and the tenors
 of the same) such as contemn and do contrary to
 them, which Laws, Ordinances and Statutes,
 We will to be observed in all things, and duely
 put in execution, yet so as the said Statutes, Laws,
 Ordinances or Decrees be not derogatory to the
 Statutes, Laws, Liberties, or Acts of Parliament
 of Our Kingdoms.

And We also Will, and by these presents for
 Us, Our heirs and Successors, do grant to the
 Council aforesaid and their Successors, that the
 Fishermen, Mariners, Masters and Serbants
 being in their Fishing businels, and to every of
 them which now are or hereafter shall be attending
 or imployed in the taking or preserving of Fish,
 be from time to time hereafter free from all
 Pleas or Plaints in any the Courts or Seats of
 Justice, of Us Our heirs or Successors where-
 soever, for any thing concerning the Fishing
 businels while they are attending the taking or
 preservation of Fish, so as none of them shall or may
 answer,

answer before any Iudices, or Stewards, Bailiffs, or Judges of the Courts and Seats of Justice of Us or Our Heirs or Successors, for any Certificates, or Contradictions touching the Fishing business, but before the Council aforesaid, nor shall give over Fishing or their Fishing works upon the summons of any of the Ministers of Us, Our Heirs or Successors, but only upon the summons of some Officers or Ministers of the said Council, or of the Judges to be Delegated by the said Council; and for the better Government, and to avoid expences, and other charge arising about any the differences that may arise among the Fishermen, Mariners, Masters and Servants belonging to the Fishery, for the speedier Administration of Justice, because it may often happen that controversies may arise at Sea between the Fishing Masters, Factors, Mariners and their Servants, to remove which without delay, the Office of Judge is necessarily requisite, We for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, do Constitute and Ordain, that in every Province of Our said Kingdoms and Cities in this behalf convenient (to be designed or appointed by the Council) there be Delegated Judges under the said Council; And We also Will that the same Judges reside and keep Courts in the Burroughs and Cities most convenient for the business of Fishing, to whom we grant full power to make, establish, and publish Laws, Ordinances, and Statutes temporary, and duly to put them in execution, so as the same Statutes and Laws do not repugne nor contradict the Laws, Acts of Parliament, or Statutes of Our Kingdoms, or the Laws or Statutes to be constituted or published by the Council aforesaid.

We Will also, and by these presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors do grant unto the Council and their Successors (as well present as
to

to come) that none of their Fishermen, Mariners, nor Servants, neither their Boats, Schoops, Barks, or Ships, little or great, or of whatsoever Bulk or Burthen they be, nor their Instruments or Furniture, designed or prepared for taking of Fish, or Carriage of the same, whether they be in Sea, or in Port, or elsewhere, be Arrested or Impressed for the Service or Employment of Us, Our Heirs or Successors, or compelled to go in Our Service or Affairs, without the consent of their Owners: And We Will that none of the Fishermen, or any employed in the taking or preserving of Fish, to be put in Arrests, Juries, Attaints, Recognizances, or any Inquisition, although they concern Us, Our Heirs or Successors, or any others; nor that any of them be against his will made Collector of Cents, Fifteenths, Taxes, Tollages, or any other Charges or Impositions whatsoever, any way granted to Us, Our Heirs or Successors, nor to be compelled to be Constable or Tything-man against his will.

And for the better encouragement for the enabling of all men of Ingenuity to Build Busses, or Fishing Vessels to carry on this Fishing Trade, it is requisite that there should be erected Wharfs, Docks, Storehouses and Granaries about the River of Thames, and all the Ports of Our Kingdoms, where the conveniency will be most advantageous for the Work, for the accommodations of all those that shall let out the said Vessels to the Fishing Ground, to receive their Provisions of Salt, Clapboard, Hemp, and Ropes, their Rigging and Provisions, and the Nets (which the poor let on Work, shall make) thereto be Landed and fitted up accordingly, which to effect will require many thousand pounds, and cannot be procured but by way of Lottery, and by Letters

Letters Patents for a Collection in all Parishes within Our Dominions We do by these presents, Give, Grant and Licence unto the Council aforesaid, for the setting up of a Lottery within Our Kingdom of England for the space of three years as King James of blessed memory did grant for the Plantation of Virginia in the year 1612. And also, Letters Patents for a free Collection in the Churches, giving it in charge to the Ministers to evidence the goodness of the Work, as the Council shall direct, unto whom it is referred; and what Monies shall be so raised, shall be paid unto Our right trusty and welbeloved Counsellor Philip Earl of Pembroke, and by him to be issued out for the erecting of Wharfs, Docks, Store-houses and Granaries aforesaid, with the consent of the aforesaid Council or any four of them.

And also We do hereby grant, that for the space of seven years, from the first entrance into the Trade of Fishing, all the Returns made for the sale of the Fish, either in the Baltick Seas, Denmark, Norway and France, shall pay no Customes inwards nor outwards, and shall freely vend their Fish in Foreign Parts, and make the returns thereof in the Commodities of the place, without any interruption, by Power or Vertue of any Charter whatsoever to the contrary; And all Victuallers, Inns, Alehouses, Taverns, Coffee-houses and the like, shall take 1, 2, 3, 4. or more Barrells of Herrings yearly, at the price of Thirtie Shillings per Barrell, untill Foreign vent be attained to perfection, according as the Council shall order the same; And all Barrells of Pickled Herrings and Codfish, that shall be brought into Our Kingdom by the Flemings or others, shall pay two Shillings six pence per Barrell to the Stock of that place or Port where they shall vend the same, which shall be also ordered by the Council aforesaid.

And

And further by these presents, We do Order that all Pickled Herrings and Barrell Cod taken by the Fishing Busses and Vessels of Our Nation, when it is to be exported to Foreign Parts, shall give a Bill of Entry of the quantity, and quality, and place whether it is to be exported, unto the Officers that shall be appointed thereunto by the Council, their Commissioners or Agents appointed, and also the returns made, whereby a due account may be kept yearly to be exhibited to Our Lord Treasurer for the time being.

And whereas in case of breach of Peace with any Foreign Nation (which God forbid) We are graciously pleased, and do hereby promise and grant, that the said Fishers shall be protected in their Fishing Grounds, and shall have Convoys for their exportation; And all other Priviledges and Immunities shall be granted unto them in future, as experience shall discover, for the better carrying on this business of Our Royal Fishing. In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patents, Witness Our Self at Westminster the Two and Twenty day of August, in the Thirteenth year of Our Reign.

L O N D O N:

Printed by John Bill and Christopher Barker, Printer's
to the KING'S most Excellent
Majesty, 1661.



IX O Y O O H P A,
Or,
THE ROYAL TRADE OF
FISHING.

NO man is so void of reason as to deny that he is born for the service of God, his Prince, and Country. God requires it for our good, a Prince out of duty derived out of the Command of God; and our Country out of the Law of Nature, next unto our Parents. God directs us out of his written Word, how to serve him; a Prince out of his humane Laws, how to serve and to obey him; and our Country out of an instinct of Nature, how to reverence her.

The City of *Paris* had a saying of old, *One God, one King, one Faith, one Law*. These four words are effectual, and as much as can be comprehended in our service to God, Prince and Country. *Cicero* saith, *Take away Piety toward God, and take away all communion of Humane Society.*

As most men differ in Feature of Face, in Diet, in Condition and Education, so all good men agree in a unity in the service of God, their Prince, and Country, in their several degrees and stations, the Divine in his Prayers, the Souldier with his Armes,

B

Wife

And further by these presents, We do Order that all Pickled Herrings and Barrel Codd taken by the Fishing Boats and Vessels of Our Nation, when it is to be exported to Foreign Parts, shall give a Bill of Entry of the quantity, and quality, and place whether it is to be exported, unto the Officers that shall be appointed thereunto by the Council, their Commissioners or Agents appointed, and also the returns made, whereby a due account may be kept yearly to be exhibited to Our Lord Treasurer for the time being.

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L O N D O N:

Printed by John Bill and Christopher Barker, Printer's
to the KING'S most Excellent
Majesty, 1661.



IX O Y O O H P A,
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As most men differ in Feature of Face, in Diet, in Condition and Education, so all good men agree in a unity in the service of God, their Prince, and Country, in their several degrees and stations, the Divine in his Prayers, the Souldier with his Armes,

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Wise men with Counsel, and Rich men with Treasure. This being done willingly, makes Sweet Harmony between King and Commonwealth: for that Prince is happy that hath young men to take pains, and old men to counsel; the one doth sustain the other in convenient time (like Fruit, which comes not altogether, nor ends altogether) some teaching, and others obeying.

The next Consideration is, how to make the people subsist in the service of God, Prince, and Country. For there must be a rational means to work by; neither can a Monarchie be upheld and supported without people employed and set on work in their severall stations. And therefore, considering that God created man (as is aforesaid) for the service of Himself, his King, and Country, and that every one is bound to employ himself in the service of them, and to prefer them before all private Respects, let me follow that Maxim, as the meanest of many thousands of other of his *Majestie's* Subjects, and offer my Mite as the first-fruit of my Harvest, not like the Divine, the Souldier, the Wise man, nor the Rich man that I spake of, but with my poor Talent God hath endued me with (which is my Experience) that could not have been compassed if God had not given me a longer life then many others, if with that life he had not marvelously defended me from Dangers of Enemies, the Sword, Water, and many other Casualties which mankind are subject to. If also with those daies and years he had not given me a desire and means to observe, conferre, and be inquisitive, I had not been able to preferre this my desire to serve my King and Country, but I should have gone as naked out of the world and void of experience as I came naked into it.

Let not the odious name of *Projector* prejudice your opinions, for what I propound deserves not that title. There is no burthen that the invention of lead brains can invent to vex the Commonwealth with, but they style it by the name of a *Project*, pretending a fair face under a foul vizor. The difference betwixt them and me is this: I have no end but for the common good of the Kingdome; I neither exact nor expect gain; I treat of no new-devised Tax or Tolls; I invent no Impositions;

nor

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nor raise Contributions; I enforce no man to undertake, nor compel people to adventure; I perswade out of Reason, that the beginning of my Propositions may be examined, that the end may be approved, and Counsel may be taken of the Wise: then I doubt not my undertaking shall be acceptable, all men satisfied, every man enriched, and my Prince and Country strengthened, feared and admired.

My meaning is not to leave our fruitful Soile untilld, our Seas unfrequented, our Ilands unpeopled, or seek remote and strange Countries uninhabited, and uncivil barbarous *Indians*, where nothing appears to us but wood, earth and water upon our first Arrival; for all other hopes must depend upon our labours, upon costly expences, upon the adventure of the Sea, upon the honesty of Undertakers, and all at last to produce nothing but *Tobacco*, a new invented needles Weed, as by the use and custome of it appears.

In what I propound I will not direct you to the Eloquence of Books to perswade, to the inventing Wits to intice, to the affecting Traveller to encourage, nor to any man that with fair words may abuse you: you shall know as much as I can say by casting a Hook into the Seas; and by example of one Line and Net, you may conjecture, by multiplication, the profit that will arise by the work; you shall be made to know, how that though you be born in an Iland seated in the Ocean, replenished with abundance of all sorts of Fish swimming from one Shore to another, yet your experience hath not taught you the Profit, nor hitherto inspired you with the Benefits and Blessings that may arise from that Fish, the principallest of all commodities. I doubt not but to give you that light therein, that you shall confess your selves heretofore blinded, and be willing to blow from you the mist that hath been an impediment to your sight: you shall be awaked out of your drowzy sleep, and rouse your selves to farther this the best business that ever was presented to *England* or King thereof; nay, I will be bold to say to any State seated in the world; I will not except the discovery of the *West-Indies* by *Columbus*, an act of great Re-

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noun, of great Profit, and that hath wrought the greatest effect to the *Spanish Nation*.

YOU will wonder, that being born Subjects of *England*, and casting your eyes only upon the gainful soile of the Land, you should never yet conceive what the Sea afforded. I confesse it were impossible for you to live in that Ignorance, if it did not appear by the ensuing discourse how you, your Country, and especially the Princes of these Realms have been abused, and the Profit thereof concealed.

To make my Comparifon good between the *West-Indies* and our *English Fishing*; which of them yields most Honour to his *Majesty* and most Profit to his Countries, least danger and least labour to his Subjects, I refer me to your Censures upon my collected Reasons.

If men consider the Divine work of God, and the end of his working, it is marvellous to behold that *America*, being a Continent, and able to equal all the rest of the world in bigness, could from the Creation thereof, untill 1490. and odd yeares after the birth of Christ, be concealed from us, and not so much as imagined; though some Philosophers seem to roave at it.

And when it pleased his Divine Majesty to bestow that Blessing upon *Europe*, if we consider the time he did it, and the occasion of doing it, it will put us into an admiration and acknowledgment of the power of Christ against the Opinions of the *Jews* and *Turks*; for could he shew himself a more just and loving God, then in pouring upon Christendome such Blessings of Wealth at the time it was like to be swallowed up of barbarous *Turks* and *Moors*, who were only withstood by the Wealth of the *Indies*? We may hope the same God hath the same Happinesse in store for this Kingdome, to adde an immortal Glory to his *Majesty's* Goodnesse, or else it had been impossible that our loving Neighbours, the industrious *Hollanders*, should for so many years have enjoyed this *Fishing*, who, to their everlasting Honour and praise, have furnished thereby more

more Vessels for Sea then all *Europe* besides can muster.

The first discovery of the *Indies* gave no great hope of Profit at the beginning, until after a long painful and chargeable Navigation it was brought to perfection. The Fishing upon his *Majesty's* Coasts of *England* and *Ireland* and *Scotland* needs no Discovery, the experience of our Neighbours hath found it out, and practised it ever since the year 1397. to their unmeasurable Wealth and our shame; and for the honour of him that first found out the pickling Herrings (the which was one *Will. Bachalen* by name) there was erected a famous tombe in the Island of *Biervliet* in *Flanders*, yet to be seen.

Fishing produceth more Riches in its way then the other doth, as I will make appear when I come to compute the one with the other.

The Wealth of the *Indies* is not brought from thence without great expence and hazard, considering the Casualty of the Sea, and the fear of Enemies to intercept it. The *Fishing* is still in view of us and our shoares, our Vessels daily expected in our Harbours, and others ready to ease them of their burthen, and to transport them into other Countries not far remote, where they are in no danger of *Hurricams*, Enemies, or other perils.

The assurance of going and coming from the *Indies* may be valued at a great rate; which we shall save in our *Fishing*, there being no fear nor hazard in it.

The Wealth of the *Indies* being surprised by an Enemy, is more prejudicial to the King of *Spain* then four times that Wealth will profit him, his Enemy being made strong and rich, and he weakened and impoverish'd by it. No such accident can much prejudice us, for in the miscarriage of our Fishermen we shall only lose so many Barks, Salt, and Nets, and no Enemy enriched or strengthened by it.

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The planting the *Indies* causeth a scarceness of natural *Spaniards*, whereby the Kings affairs many times suffer and are at a losse. The *Fishing* employes all our best people, which abound in this Kingdome, and makes them capable to serve their Prince and Country.

The *Indies* employ four times more Ships then all the rest of their Dominions, and increase their strength by Sea. The *Fishing* will maintain twenty Vessels to one of theirs, and *England* may furnish them with most materials belonging unto them, which in time of War are brought into *Spain* with great danger of Enemies.

The *Indies* are too far remote from *Spain* to be assisted thence if there happen Changes in any part thereof, which other Nations may take notice of for their advantage. The *Fishing* is one Body governed by a Company that no Enemy can annoy; and if Questions arise between parties, they are speedily to be determined without Charge or detriment to either, as the other have their Appeals to their Courts of Justice in *Spain* from the *Indies*.

The chief Commodities of the *Indies* are Bullion, Hides, Cock-neale, &c. Our only *Fish* doth countervail them all; and though for the present it affords no Bullion in *Specie*, yet it draws the Money unto it which is coyned of that Bullion.

The Ships that trade into the *Indies* are great of burthen, and make but one Return or Voiage in a year; and when they are carin'd (for the waters in *Spain* do not rise high enough to ground them) it is done with far greater labour and charge then ours are, that are brought on ground in one tide, and haled off another, ready for a new Voiage, and never wanting Eraight.

But what I have observed is not to be accomplished with words, but works, not with talking, but with doing and acting; for betwixt words and deeds there is a great difference, words with-

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without deeds and actions are like Water that drowneth people and doth it sell no good.

The property of a Merchant is to have Money in his Purse, and Credit on the Burse, to advance his trade. All men in this work must become Merchants not only for themselves, but for their Prince and Countrey: All are to reap benefit by it, none pain or sorrow but the sloathful, idle, base people, that are like Droans amongst Bees; for the purchase of Sloath is Dispraise.

There are three things necessary in every work: the Man that works, the Instrument to work withall, and the Matter. There is nothing required of the men in our work but labour and pains: the Instrument to work withall is Ships of several kinds to be made and built: And the Matter to set on work is Money. All these concurring in one will make it a work of Fame, Renown, Strength, Riches, and all the good God can send unto a Nation and people: but if through sluggishness and carelessness, or mistrust of return of Gain, (it being out of the Element and breeding of Gentlemen, and others that apply themselves to make profit of the Land, and not of the Sea) they neglect the offer and proposal following, we are a people worthy to be punished with Penury and want, and unworthy to live and enjoy the Blessings of God, which he hath poured upon this Land above all others he hath pleased to create.

What better Pattern can we have in this business then our inward and intimate Friends the *Hollanders*, who by their long Travels, their excessive pains, their ingenious Inventions, their incomparable Industry and provident care, have exceeded all other Countreys and Nations in their adventurous Commences, and made all the world familiar with them by Trade; so that we may justly attribute to them what the *Chineses* assume to themselves, that they only have two Eyes, the *Europeans* but one, all the rest of the people none. How can it better appear then by this, that out of their labours and our *Fish* only, they have increased the number of Vessels as followeth, they have

fed

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fed the world that otherwise would have found a scarcity of food, they have so mightily advanced trading, (and so abundantly) that the wealth arising to the Subjects and the Customs to Princes, have shewed them the benefit of it; and lastly, they have so provided for themselves, as that all their people, of what sort soever, though impotent and lame, yet they want not employment, nor are forced to seek out for work for their maintenance.

And because their quantity of *Fish* is not to be vended in their own Provinces, but dispersed into all parts of *Europe*, I will give you an account of it, as it hath been carefully observed, and taken out of the Customers books beyond the Seas.

In four Towns within the *Sound*, viz. * *Lucenborough, Melven, Stetin, and Danzick*, they vend in a year between thirty and forty thousand Last of Herrings, which will amount unto more then six hundred and twenty thousand pounds; and we vend none.

In *Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Liefland, Riga, Revel*, the *Narve*, and other Towns within the *Sound*, there is vended above ten thousand Last, worth one hundred threescore and ten thousand pounds.

The *Hollanders* send into *Russia* about one thousand and five hundred Last of Herrings, sold at twenty and seven thousand pounds; and we not above thirty or forty Last.

Stoade, Hamburgh, Brema, Emden, and so up the River of *Elbe*, take off in Fish and Herrings above six thousand Last, sold at one hundred thousand pounds; and from us none.

In *Cleveland, Juliers*, up the River of *Rhene*, *Frankford, Colen*, and over all *Germany*, in Fish and Herrings they vend near two thousand Last, amounting unto four hundred and forty thousand pounds; and we none.

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In *Gelderland, Artois, Hainault, Brabant, Flanders*, and the Archduchess's Country, they eight or nine thousand Last, amounting to one hundred threescore and eleven thousand pounds; and we none.

In *Rouen* in *Normandie*, they five thousand Last of Herrings, sold at one hundred thousand pounds; and we not one hundred Last: they are commonly sold for twenty, and sometimes thirty pounds the Last.

Besides what they spend in *Holland*, and sell there to other Nations, to the value of many a hundred thousand pounds.

Now having perfected the *Hollander's Fish*, in valuing what they take in our Seas, and vend into foreign Countries, our Shame will manifestly appear, that for so many thousand Last of Fish, and so many hundred thousand pounds of money made thereof by them, we cannot give account of above one hundred and fifty Last taken and vend by us.

The *Hollanders* are no lesse to be commended for the benefit they make in the Return of *Fish*; for what Commodity soever any Country yields in lieu thereof, they transport in their own Vessels to *Holland*, where they have a continual Staple of all Commodities brought out of the South, and from thence sent into the North and East Countries: the like they doe into the South out of the North, their Ships continually going, and bringing an inestimable Profit, like a weavers shuttle, that he casts from one hand to another, ever in action, till his gain appears in the Cloath he makes.

And if we compare *Holland's* forecast with ours, the imputation of Sloath and Negligence will lye heavy upon us, like him that beats the Bush for another to catch the Bird. For though *Russia* at our Adventure, Charge and Shipwreck was first discovered to us, and that for many years it afforded great profit by the constant Trade of eight Ships yearly; yet about twenty years past the *Hollanders* incroached upon us with two Ships, and in continuance of time have brought us to but two or three, and themselves to sixty great Vessels.

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The chiefest gain arising out of our *Fish* and other *English* Commodities they fetch from us.

New-found-Land being an ancient patrimony of *England*, and we the first discoverers thereof, immediately after the finding out of the *West-Indies* by *Columbus*, hath been since a great enriching to the Western parts with the *Fish* there yearly taken. And now the *Hollanders* of late have found the way thither, and sent in the year 1629. twelve or fourteen great Ships to buy up the *Fish* taken by his *Majesties* Subjects; whereby his *Majesty* doth not only lose his Custom going out (if it had been brought into *England*) but in the Return of that Commodity, which might have amounted unto fourteen or fifteen thousand pounds, if his *Highness* Subjects had had the Carriage of it.

Not reckoning the *Hollanders* principal trading with *England*, there are three Commodities little in shew, and not regarded by us, which they make gain of to themselves: the first is *Lobsters*, the greatest part whereof that finds *London* at the time of the year they bring from the farthest Northern parts of *England*, never practised by the *English*; the second is the quantity of *Oysters* yearly transported by them into *Holland*, which causeth the decrease and dearness of *Oysters* amongst us; the third is the *Lamperns* out of *Thames*, which they use for bait to take their Cod in the North seas, and that makes the scarceness and dearness of this fish in *London*.

But the greatest Navigation of theirs, and of most importance unto their State for maintenance of Ships of burthen and strength, is into the *Streights*, and from the Port of *Marseilles* along the Coast, untill they come to *Venice*; and in this trade I will reckon but threescore Ships of two hundred and fifty Tunns each Ship in burthen, leaving more than as many more trading into *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Biscay*, and the South part of *France*, and all with our *English* Fish, taken by his *Majesties* Subjects, as namely *Pilchards* caught in *England* and *Ireland*, *Baccalan* in *New-found-Land*, and the red Herrings taken and made at *Har-*
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The *Hollanders* do almost intirely enjoy this Trade, what by Combination made with the Merchants that deale in that kind of Fish, and what in the Cheapnesse in the Freight of their Vessels, which may make them give the better price.

Within these eighteen years last past they have so increased their Navigation, as that for five ships of ours to one of theirs within the *Streights* before the said eighteen years, they are able now to mulier ten of theirs to one of ours, and merely by this trade of Fish: for true it is that there is not any commodity in the world of so great a bulk and of so small a value, that can set so many Ships of burthen on work.

As for example, a petty Merchant may freight his Ship of two hundred and fifty Tunnes, that will not cost above sixteen hundred pounds, that forty Merchants cannot doe in better Commodities. I speak not upon surmise, but what is approved by divers Merchants, and especially one of good accompt, whose name I conceal, unlesse I might have his leave to divulge it. He accounts that by threecore Ships laden with these three sorts of Fish aforesaid, whereof one penny profit comes not into *England*, and whence they gather the sweet dew of their Food, *Holland* is enriched six hundred twenty one thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds: as I will demonstrate by the worst Commodities brought out of the *Streights*.

The principal end I aim at is how to undertake the *Hollanders* at their own weapons, and how to equal them with Pincks and Busses and other Vessels, untill we be made partners with them in Fishing, not by any hostility or uncivil kind of usage, nor to deprive them, by any Prerogative which the laws of Nations cast upon us, or out of envy to their labours to regine at their fortunes, or revenge discourtesies; only we will seek to enjoy what Nature and Nations cast upon us, and make use of our own by the Countenance of our blessed King, that in Justice gives all people their right and due. There needs no repetition of my former Narration: Truth hath spoken it, which is so glorious of her self, that she needs no false light to give her a better gloss.

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In that which followeth; I will demonstrate the particular proceedings of the *Hollanders* with their Pincks and Busses, with the certain gain they yearly raise out of them: and when it shall appear, and that Experience, the mother of Knowledge, shall make it known to you, I hope you will remember what you are, and how easily you may advantage your selves and Countrey by it.

I confesse this *Fishing* is a businesse I have long taken into Consideration; my Lord of *Northampton*, if he were now living, were able to witnesse how much it was solicited and desired by me, and no lesse wished and laboured by his Lordship. I caused one *Tobias Gentleman*, a Mariner by profession, but endued with better parts then your ordinary mariners, and much practised in the Northern Fishing, to dedicate a book to his Lordship, which gave particular notice of the *Hollanders* proceedings in their Busses and Pincks, and what we should doe in the imitation of them. But by the Death first of my Lord it rested unfollowed, (for some respects) though not unthought on by me, untill the late Duke of *Richmond* revived it, and importuned me once more to it. His Death in like manner made it lye dead, untill his Majesty of late, out of his Princely care to the good of his loving Subjects, the Renown of his Kingdoms, and desire of the Unity and equal Benefit of his two Realms of *England* and *Scotland*, gave it life again, taking more then an ordinary Care for effecting it, well be seeming so blessed and benign a Prince.

And now I will descend to the particulars of the *Hollanders* Busses, Pincks, Yagers, Lymboats, and the use of them in their severall fishings.

From the *Texell* in *Holland* to the *Brasse Sound* in *Schotland*, (an Island belonging to his Majesties Dominions in *Scotland*) it is two hundred and thirty Leagues, whether there resort the 22th of June about two thousand Fishing-vessels; the 24th they put to Sea, being prohibited till then, and a penalty upon the breach thereof, as holding the Herring till then unfit to salt by reason of her fatnesse.

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Every one of these Vessels directs his course to find out the Shoal of Herrings, like the Hound that pursues the Herd of Deer in hunting.

When they have laden their Busses, which is sooner or later, as they can find the store of Herrings, they presently repair home for *Holland*, and leave their Herrings on shore to be re-packed, and from thence immediately to be sent to the *Sound*, where they are received for great Dainties.

The Busses having thus disburthened themselves in *Holland*, are once more victualled and furnish'd with Salt and Caske, and repair to Sea to look out the Shoal they had formerly left; and then finding them and filling their Busses once again, they doe as they did before, return into *Holland*.

Not ceasing thus, the third time they repair to the Shoal as aforesaid: and in these three Fishings, computing with the least, they take to the number of one hundred Last of Herrings, which being valued but at ten pounds the Last, will amount unto one thousand pounds.

Many times this Fishing-fleet is attended with certain Vessels called Yagers, which bring Salt, Caske and Victuals, to truck with the Busses for their Herrings, and carrie them directly into the *Sound* as aforesaid, without returning home; for it is a matter of great consequence and gain to bring the first Herrings into the *Sound*.

I will set down the rate of a Busse new from the stock, with the price of her Nets, Tackling, Salt, Victuals, Caske, mens Wages, and all other Charges whatsoever belonging to her, and will value the profit by the four months Fishing, which may very well continue twenty years, that being the ordinary life of a Busse.

*Inprimis, a Busse with her furniture and tackling will cost—500*l*.
Item; a hundred Last of Barrells for three Fishings—072.*

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Item, for Sale	088.
Item, for Beer for four months	042.
Item, for Bread	021.
Item, for Bacon and Butter	018.
Item, for Pease	003.
Item, for Billets	003.
Item, for mens Wages for four months	088.

Summa totalis 835. l.

Rating the Herrings but at one thousand pounds, there is gotten clear in four months five hundred pounds in a Bussie, and one hundred threescore and five pounds in money; so the totall summe, as appears, which is gotten is six hundred threescore and five pounds in one Summer; whereout if you deduct one hundred pounds for the weare of the Bussie, and the reparation of the Nets against next Summer, yet still there remains five hundred threescore and five pounds for clear gain by one Bussie in four months in the Summer, which is a greater profit then can be thought to be raised otherwise.

The *Hollanders* make the gain of their Bussies so certain, that they lay out their Childrens money given them by their deceased Friends in adventures in their Bussies; and they have in *Holland* a *Treasurie of Orphans* opened and laid out in adventuring in the Bussies.

Now leaving the Bussies, I will shew you the Charge of a Pinck. She being built new, and all things new unto her, will not cost three hundred and threescore pounds, with her Lines and fishing appurtenances.

Inprimis, a Pinck	260. l.
Item, fifteen Last of Barrels	010.
Item, five weigh of Salt upon Salt	015.
Item, Beer, Bread, Caske, and petty talley	012.
Item, mens Wages for these two months	020.

Summa totalis 317. l.

Fifteen Last of Barrell-Cod at fourteen pounds and eight shillings, the Last, the which is for a Barrell twenty four shillings, amounts unto two hundred and sixteen pounds, whereout if you deduct fifty seven pounds for the charges in setting her to Sea, there remains one hundred fifty eight pounds clear gain by one Pinck, with fifteen Last of Fish in two months.

This Fishing beginneth upon the ending with our Busses, in *November*, and continueth untill *May*, so that they do lade themselves three times in that space.

I present you with no *Chimeras* or tumors, toyes to please Children, or with shadows of untruths; for I know Truth to be so noble of it self, that it makes him honorable that pronounceth it, and that an honest man will rather bear witness against his Friend, then obscure truth by a lye. I have discovered with what facility the *Hollanders* goe through with this golden Mine of theirs, as they term it in their Proclamation extant. I have proved their Busses and Pincks are built to take Fish; that they fill themselves there in a Summer with Fish; that this Fish is vended, and esteemed as a pretious food, in all parts of *Europe*; and that the Return thereof bringeth them a greater profit then any Commodity whatsoever, without which they could not live. It is manifest that that Fish hath brought them to a great encrease of their strength both by Land and Sea, and of Fame withall, in enabling them to maintain their Warres against so great and potent an Enemy as the King of *Spain*, whom they will not acknowledge.

I speak not this with an intencion to have their Power lessened, but to shew the great Advantages we lose in not fishing with them, there being Fish enough for them and us.

And if all these Benefits accrew to them, and nothing but shame to us, let us search into the Cause thereof, and seek to amend it; let us follow their Example, which is better then a Schoolmaster to teach us. Nothing is our bane but Idleness, which ingendreth Ignorance, and Ignorance Error; all which we may be taxed with. Nothing is so easy in it self, but to a sloathfull

Slouthfull man it will prove difficult, if it be done unwillingly.

There are but two things required to this work; that is to say, a will to undergoe it, and money to goe through with it; which being had, we will plead Charity to begin with our selves, before we yield it to our Neighbours: and then it will soon appear that this businesse may be effected by us with more Benefit, more Strength, more Renown, more Happinesse, and lesse Expence, then the *Hollanders* have or can goe through it withall. Time is the mother of Experience; and you shall find that time may cure our Carelesnesse past, that Reason could not hitherto doe.

The Instruments with which the *Hollanders* work, are three Vessels of several kinds, as I have declared; not produced out of their own Countrey, for that yields nothing to farther it but their own pains and labour. Their Wood, Timber and Plancks they fetch out of divers other places. And yet are these of no more availe to undertake their Fishing and Navigation, then Weapons are without hands to fight. For their Iron, Hemp, Cordage, Hops, Barrell, Boards, Mault and Bread, they are beholden to other Countreys, who, if upon any difference they prohibit their transportation, the *Dutch* are to seek a new trade, for their State presently sinketh.

Upon comparing these Casualties and Inconveniences with ours, you shall discern the advantage and benefit God hath given us more then them: for as to the Materials formerly mentioned that goe to this Shipping, *England* yields most of them, and in little time the Earth may be made to produce them in abundance; so that we shall not need to stand to the Courtesie of Neighbours, or to venture the hazard of the Sea in fetching them.

Whereas all manner of people, of what degree soever, have commonly an adventure, according to their abilities, in this Fishing of *Holland*, and that the only Exception amongst our selves is want of money to undertake it; you shall understand God and Nature have so provided for us, that I will clearly answer

swer the objection of Money, and throw it wholly upon the Sluggishness and ill disposition of our people, who if they will take away the occasion of this imputation, they may take away the offence due to it, and by which we are scandaliz'd.

The Objection of lack of Money to set on foot this work would seem ridiculous to Strangers, that behold the Wealth and Glory of this Kingdome, with the sumptuous Buildings, the costly insides of Houses, the masse of Plate to deck them, the daily Hospitality, the number of Servants kept to the honour of Masters, and the charitable Almshouses distributed out of mens superfluities: and to descend to more particulars, when they behold the bravery of Apparel vainly spent, the rich and curious Jewels to adorn their bodies withall, and the needlesse expences yearly wasted, they will conclude, it cannot be *Want*, but want of *Will* that is the impediment. But leaving these observations, let me tell you, there is never a Lord, Knight, Gentleman, nor Yeoman of any accompt in *England*, but, if he want Money, is able to furnish either Timber, Iron, Wheat, Mault, Beef, Pork, Bacon, Pease, Butter, Cheese, or home-spun Cloath out of their wool; all which should be received from them at a reasonable rate, and the value allowed them in the adventure.

No man owneth or hireth Land, but he may as well plant Hemp, to make Lines, Nets and Cordage, seeing the Laws of the Kingdome command it, as any other Grain; which Hemp may be spun by his Neighbours and Tenants, and so all people set on work: then what need have we of Money, but for the building of the Vessels? for you see with what ease every thing else is compassed.

Before these Busses should direct their Course to *Schetland*, to be there welcomed by the *Hollanders* in their own Houses, I would first take a view of all the Harbours and Creeks capable of Busses in his *Majesties* Kingdoms of *England* and *Scotland*, and there design such provision for the advantage of Fishing as shall be requisite. If the *Hollanders* have usually made one

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thousand pounds in four moneths, by three Fishings, we shall be able sure to exceed it in the course following.

I will suppose our Busses to be at *Brasse Sound* in *Scetland* ready the 24th of *June* to put to sea, in pursuit and chace of the *Herring-Shoals*; I will suppose likewise that the one and the other have filled their Vessels, the *Hollanders* ready on their way to *Holland* to unlade and to return again, as I have said before.

If you compute their distance, and losse of time in 400. Leagues running forwards and backwards, though the winde favour them both waies, you shall see a great difference of Gain betwixt us and them; for we shall not need to run many Leagues, perhaps not ten, ere we make our next Harbour, where provision shall be made of Victuals, Salt and Caske, and our Busses put their Herrings a-shore to be repacked again, that with all speed they may hasten to sea again in pursuit of the Shoal; and the Herrings being repacked are immediately sent to the *Sound* to take the first Market: all which will be effected before the *Hollanders* can be at home with their Herrings; and yet after they are arrived in *Holland*, they are to saile very near as great a way to the *Sound* as we shall from *England* or *Scotland*. There needs no argument to prove the truth hereof, seeing a Map will demonstrate it.

But it may be answered, that the Yagers formerly spoken of, that truck with the Busses for Herrings, will sooner be at the *Sound* then we, and make benefit by the fore-selling of their Fish. To give you satisfaction therein, I pray conceive, our Busses are in Harbour within three hours after they have fished, and subject to no foul weather to hurt them; they have a convenience to mend and dry their Nets; they unlade their Herrings and lade their Salt, Caske and Victuals, without interruption, and so goe to sea again speedily: whereas the Yagers must wait their time for fair weather and a smooth sea to change their Salt Victuals and Caske for Herrings; they must watch their time and fit weather to mend any defects in their Nets and Busses, or
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for drying them. Thus you see all Casualties considered, our Arrival at the *Sound* is more certain, for the Reasons before expressed.

But there never was any businesse so easy to be accomplished but still found some objection or opposition, till it was made plain and apparent as well to the doubters as beholders: for most men are guided by opinion rather than by Judgement. And so fares it with this hopeful and beneficial Work, for some still frame Reasons and impediments to discourage it; but time will determine the doubt, and clear the mistaking.

There are three Arguments, or rather Errors, that possess peoples mindes with the difficultie of our *Fishing*, which I do not mean to convince with bare words, but with infallible demonstration; for I had better offend in telling truth, then please by feigned falsehood.

The first Exception is, Our taking Fish with greater Charge then the *Hollanders*, by means whereof they will overwork us.

The second is, That they will doe the same in the Vent and sale thereof, by their long practice in that trade.

And the third is, The fear of fraud and deceit amongst our selves, as in the President of the *East-Indies*, *Virginia*, and other Companies lately erected.

But truth hath no ghostly Father to absolve her, Reason shall make her speak.

For the first Objection, of our taking Fish with more Charge then *Holland*; you must know, that the Charge belonging to a Fishing-vessel is her Hull, Tackling, Nets, Salt, Caske and Victuals, the number of Men, and their Wages.

Butter and Cheefe excepted, there are none of the rest of the materials growing in *Holland*, and most of them afforded in

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England, Scotland, or Ireland; by reason whereof *England* may afford them better cheap then *Holland*.

The Victuals used at Sea are Bread, Beer, Flesh and Fish, Butter, Cheese, and Pease. For Fish we may value it at an equal rate, because it costs neither of us any more then the taking. And as Flesh is more chargeable then the rest, so shall it cost us lesse then them, and indeed little or nothing: for it is to be considered, that a fat Beef in the Islands of the *Hebrides* is sold for lesse then twenty shillings, the hide and tallow whereof in *England* will give ten shillings, the other ten shillings will be raised in carrying wine, strong-waters, and other Commodities desired by the people of that Country; for every ten shillings so employed doubleth the adventure, as namely in *Aqua vita* ten shillings bestowed in *England* will yield more then the Carcasse of a Cow.

For Bread, Beer, Butter, Cheese, and Pease, *England* affords them better cheap then *Holland*: first, in respect they grow in *England* in greater plenty then in *Holland*; secondly, they pay Excise in *Holland*, and not in *England*; and thirdly, no man but knows the difference between the feeding of the *Hollanders* and the *English*, and that one *Hollander* eats more then one and a half of our *English*-men at Sea.

Both the one and the other carries an equall proportion of men, and their Wages are upon an even rate; but herein we shall overwork them for the reasons following.

In a Buss of fifteen or sixteen men, the meanest whereof hath 20^s the month amongst the *Hollanders*, we will ease the Charge of eight in sixteen, viz. we will carry but eight men to the place where we Fish, and we will have eight more for lesse then half the wages we give the rest; and so in a year we shall save in every Buss eight and fourty pounds; by means whereof we shall goe cheaper then the *Hollanders* by nine thousand and six hundred pounds in our two hundred Busses: and moreover, in Wages and Victual for our eight men we shall leave behind us,

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as aforesaid, we shall save as much in Victuals and Wages, so much as in the whole will amount unto eight thousand six hundred pounds.

And whereas it is conceived that the *Hollanders* will transport their Fish at lesse Charge then we, I shall make appear to the contrary. For their Yagers which attend some of their Busses, to carrie their Herrings to the first Market, as I have said, their Herrings are not repacked, but they are allowed more then two Barrells in each Last to make up the tale, by means whereof they pay two Barrells freight in every Last of Herrings more then we that have the shore to repack, so that 200. Busses will yield us 5000^l. more gain then the *Hollanders*.

Whereas every Fishing-vessel in *Holland* contributes to 20. or 30. men of warr, to defend them from the *Dunkirkers*; our Peace doth ease us of that expence. And this shall suffice in answer to the first, as to the comparison between the *Hollanders* and us in taking our Fish.

The second point to prove is, That we shall vend our Fish at as easy rates as the *Hollanders*. This your own Experience must needs teach you: for in the *Sound*, where the greatest quantity of Herrings is uttered, as I have before shewed, necessity will compell those Countries to take them off; and it is not their affection to the *Hollanders* above us that will make them refuse ours, to accept of theirs.

And then consequently, ours will be better sold, in that we shall serve the Market before them, by the means and reasons aforesaid.

And if we goe farther from home, as to *Spain* or the *Streights*, you must understand that the *Hollanders* Ships goe with fewer men then ours, by reason of the slight building and tackling of their Ships in comparison of ours; and as there is 20. men in 40. difference in the sailing of our Ships, so there is in the strength of them; wherefore the Merchant had better, for

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the safety of his goods, give fifty shillings freight to us then thirty shillings to the *Hollander*, for his goods shall be better defended from Pirates by our forty men then their twenty; and the *Hollander* loses many a Ship for want of men to manage them, whereas ours having more men will be the better secured.

The *English* will double a lee-shoar, when the other will be forced in foul weather upon Rocks; the Cables and Anchors in the *English* will hold, when the other will be forced to come home or break; the *English* will be able to put out saile at sea, when the other must take in; the *English* in some cases may come a-shoar, and by their strength come off again without hurt, when the other will perish: the *English* also draw more water, which keeps them sweet and wholesome in the Sea, and carries the Merchants goods with little losse; the *Hollander's* are troublesome and dangerous in a Storm, which causeth great leaking in wine, oyle, and such Commodities, to the great prejudice of the Merchant, yea more sometimes then the difference of Freight comes to.

As the *English* goe in greater security then the *Hollander*, so shall the Merchant save by not assuring the value of the difference in Freight: which I could compute and prove, but it is too tedious. Moreover the *English* having the absolute carriage of all the Fish taken by them, as the laws of the Realm do warrant, our Ships shall never want employment, nor have any cause to look out for Fraights; by reason whereof a Ship of 250. tunn may goe cheaper by 200^l. then usually they have done. And thus much for our Foreign trade.

Now let us return to the vending our Fish in the Kingdom of *England* and *Wales*. If the Proclamation for observing the daies for Fish be duly kept, it will be one means to vend our Fish, and encourage others to adventure in Fishing; so there be a prohibition; as there is in *Holland*, that no Fish be brought into any of his *Majesties* Kingdomes but by his own Subjects.

[It would not seem a thing unreasonable, to enjoyn every
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able Yeoman and Farmer in the Kingdome to take a Barrell of Fish for their own spending, considering they save the value thereof in other Victuals, and that it is no other then the Fishermen will doe to them, to take off their Whear, Malt, Butter and Cheese, for their food at Sea. The Farmer by this means shall never be unprovided of Fish to observe the daies commanded by his *Majesty* without sending to the Market, as otherwise he will be compelled to doe.

The Farmer will find by experience that it will be as cheap a food as any other he can feed upon, and give better delight to the tast then any other Victuals of that value, according as it may be in several manners dressed.

The Labouring-man which works with the Farmer, takes of him his Butter and Cheese; for every poor mans case is not such as to keep a Cow: and such Labourers will be as willing to take Fish of him as any other Victuals, if he be willing to spare it.

There are few Farmers but spend the quantity of a Barrell of Fish yearly; and he that doth so shall save 20. in the hundred by buying a Barrell together rather then by retaile.

And that the Country may be better served with Fish and other Commodities then they have been, we will make several staples of Salt, Coals and other Commodities wanted by the Countries, where Boats may passe upon Rivers. As namely, *Middlesex*, part of *Hartfordshire*, *Surrey*, *Buckinghamshire*, *Berkshire* and *Oxfordshire* may be served by the River of *Thames*: *Essex* may serve it self, part of *Hartfordshire* and part of *Suffolk*: *Norfolk* will serve *Cambridgeshire*, part of *Suffolk*, *Bedfordshire*, *Huntingtonshire*, *Northamptonshire*; and a staple there made will serve *Warwickshire*; for from thence there goe Carts empty to fetch Coals, which may furnish the Shire with little Charge: *Lincolnsire* will furnish it self, *Nottinghamshire*, part of *Rutlandshire* and *Darbyshire*, whither the Carts goe empty for Coals out of *Lincolnsire*: *Yorkshire* will furnish it self, part of *Nottinghamshire*, part of *Rutlandshire* and
Darbyshire

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Darbyshire by the *Trent*: *Cumberland* and *Westmorland* will furnish themselves, both by the West and East Sea,

Let us leap over the Land to the Western Sea; where *Chester* and *Lancashire* will furnish themselves, part of *Shropshire*, *Worcestershire*, *Staffordshire*, and the North part of *Wales*.

That side of the Sea will furnish *Wales* till you come to *Severn*: the North side whereof will serve *Pembrokeshire*, *Carmarthenshire*, *Glamorganshire*, *Monmouthshire*; and the South part thereof will serve part of *Cornwall*, *Devonshire* and *Somersetshire*; and the River of *Severn* *Gloucestershire* and *Wiltshire*.

The South Sea of *England* will furnish *Cornwall*, *Devonshire*, *Somerset*, *Dorset*, *Hampshire*, and part of *Wiltshire*, *Sussex*, *Kent*, and part of *Surrey*.

Thus is *England* and *Wales* circuit. Then consideration is to be had of the meetest places for erecting Staples, to utter the Commodities brought them, and to be received from them.

If at any time Corn fails the Countries, we will hereafter supply them at a reasonable rate by our trade with *Dantzick*; and if plenty warrant it by the Statute, we will take it off their hands: so that they shall have no cause to complain either of Dearth or Abundance.

We will provide that no Rogue nor Vagabond shall trouble them, nor the poor of their Parish charge them; for all such people shall be set on work by us: then will the Contributions to the houses of Correction be needless, which will ease their Parishes more then the value of many a Barrell of Herrings they shall take of us comes to.

When our Staples shall be erected in the Countries, as aforesaid, out of them we will furnish every parish in the Kingdom with Hemp by weight, to set their people on work, and receive it again by weight, allowing every one such a rate for their work

work as they may well live thereon: no boy or girl of seven years of age, no man or woman how lame of leggs soever, but shall be able to get their livings, no person so blind but may live without Almshouses; for besides their making of Nets, and such work as goeth thereunto, we will set up the trade of making Cables, and all manner of Ropes, as well to vend abroad, as to furnish the Kingdome at home, as also Poledaves for Sailes, and not be beholding to *France* for them.

Whereas there are many Yeomen and Farmers which have many Sons that put them to great care how to provide for them out of their mean estates, this Fishing will take off all such youths, make them capable to get their livings, and ease their Parents of their Care and Charge.

All these Reasons considered, it is apparent that the Farmers and people of the inland Countries, who hetherto have not tasted of this Happinesse, and whose passages by water have not been frequented or known, shall reap as great a benefit and commodity by this Fishing as our selves, and have no more reason to refuse the taking of Herrings in the manner aforesaid, then we have to take off the Commodities by which they live. And this shall suffice in Answer to the second Objection, touching the vending our Fish.

These six severall Trades following we will erect in all parts of *England*, not hetherto practised but in some places near the Sea-side;

Hempsters,	}	{	Rope-makers,
Spinsters,			Weavers of Poledaves,
Corders,			Net-makers.

In Answer to the third Allegation, of Couzenages and deceits amongst our selves, as it is in the *East-Indie*, *Virginie*, and other Companies; first, I cannot say, whether they deserve that imputation of Fraud which is cast upon them, yea or no, for report is like an echo, heard, but no man knows where: but to give satisfaction in the managing of our Trade that no deceit

can creep in at it, that which followeth shall declare it.

It is not intended that a select Company shall have the disposing of the Fishing, as in those other cases they have; or that they shall receive, disburse, or imploy the Moneys of the Adventurers, or direct and order things at their pleasure; but contrariwise, (for example) whosoever shall be a member of ours, it shall be at his choice what to adventure, with whom to adventure, and the way how to adventure, without control of any other: as thus, If one undertake for a Buss or a Ship, it shall be in his power or choice to accept of a partner, two, or three, or more, and after the value of their adventures, they shall set forth as many Ships as they please, and appoint such persons for the ordering of their affairs as they shall make choice of; so that if any deceit be, it shall be among themselves, for no body else shall meddle with their Adventure.

But because in all Commonwealths there must be a Head to govern, and execute Justice, to which the rest of the Body must submit; it is convenient that the supreme Commission and Authority should be given to the Lords of his *Majesties* most Honourable Privy Council, and other persons of quality, to be chosen as well in the Kingdoms of *Scotland* and *Ireland* as in *England*, to settle a form of Government, and to provide for eschewing of all mischiefs and other inconveniences that may fall out betwixt man and man, and prevent abuses, and questions that may arise betwixt Merchants, Mariners, owners of Ships, Salters, and others that it may concern: but these Commissioners are no wates to handle or meddle with the parties in their Adventures, or with their stocks of Moneys, or with employment of them.

Furthermore, to stop the mouths of such suspicious conceits of Conspirage, you will find that it is not within the wit of man to over-reach one: for the quantity of Fish which a Buss takes cannot be hid, because of necessity she must repair to the Coasts of *England* or *Scotland*, where the Customer enters every Barrell of Fish in his Book, and none can be transported without

without a Cocquet. The number of Cask which they pay for, they will look that they be filled; the people that goe in them are able to justifie how much they take; and lastly, according to the quantity of your Salt, you are to expect the number of Barrels: the price of those that are vended at home as well as those abroad is easily estimated; the usual freight of Ships and the Factorage is easily guessed at; and therefore no means left for Deceit.

Now to return once more to the *Fishing*, where we left the Busses for the Summer, to provide against the first of *December*, to repair to the Island of *Lewis*; where untill the beginning of *February* they shall take the best Herrings of all, in Loughs and Creeks, as I have before declared: about the first of *March* we shall depart from thence to the Island of *Roane*, some forty miles from *Lewis*, from whence there runs a Bank 100. miles in length, as far as *Tilley-head* in *Ireland*; which Bank affordeth the best Cod and Ling of any part of the Seas.

Between the first of *March*, as I said, and the twentieth of *June*, the time that I assign for repair to *Brasse Sound* in *Scheland*, I make account they will fill their Busses 3. times with Cod and Ling, and leave them at the Island of *Lewis*, because there is never a Harbour in *Roane*; from whence they shall be fetched by other Vessels, which shall bring Salt and other necessaries for the Island and Fishing. The 20th of *June* once approaching, the Busses are to repair to *Brasse Sound*, as in the year before, and prosecute the Fish and Herrings, till they arrive at *Tarmouth*. And if they then please to take an account of the year spent, it will appear that one Busse imployed by us, as I have projected, will be of much more value to us, then any one to the *Hollanders*; and we shall learn the way how his *Majesties* Dominions may flourish, not for a little while, but for ever.

Now will I stand over for the Islands of *Orkney* and *Scheland*, which need no other description, but that it is pity so good and civil people should inhabit no better a Countrey. We may

say the contrary of them that we may of those of the Islands of *Hebrides*, that it is a good land, but a bad people; these are good people, but their soile barren.

The way to relieve them is, humbly to beseech his *Majesty* to accept of his Revenues in *Orkney* and *Scherland* in Fish, to encourage the people of those Islands to undertake and practise the way of fishing, which through poverty and want of trading they are not able to goe through withall.

Besides the Rent they shall pay to his *Majesty* in Fish, what they take more we will buy of them, and supply them with Salt, Nets, Hooks, Boats, or what else they shall need; by which means every man in those Islands shall be able to subsist and maintain themselves, who know not now how to live, but are brought up in Sloth and Idleneffe.

Proposals for the better inhabiting of the Island of Lewis and other Islands adjacent.

1. **T**hat his *Majesty* be pleased to call in the Patent of late granted to the *Hollanders*, for inhabiting the *Lewis*, where they are crept in of purpose to set up a Fishing on that Coast, to defeat his *Majesties* Subjects of that benefit.

2. That his *Majestie* grant Immunities to his Subjects of *England*, *Scotland* and *Ireland*, to inhabit there, and erect Towns, Villages, Store-houses, and all manner of Manufactories and Trades, so that hereafter we need not to supply those Islands, but shall find there all things to our hands, as in other places of *Europe* where Trades are upheld and maintained.

3. That his *Majesty* do constitute a Governour to be there resident for the space of three years, and not to exceed that time, lest in longer continuance abuses should creep in by the Avarice of Governours.

That

4. That in every Island there be erected one principal Town above the rest, and a Cittadell in it to keep the people in obedience; for naturally the Inhabitants of those Islands are inclined to Incivility, Treachery, and love of Liberty, which are next neighbours to Rebellion.

5. That every Child be taught the *English* or *Scotch* tongue, and that their educations be according to their abilities of body and disposition of mind, some in Learning, and some in manuring and husbanding of ground; but the most part in Fishing and Sea-affairs, as having so convenient a seat for the same.

6. That the native inhabitants of those Islands hold no Correspondency with the *Highlanders* upon the main Continent more then is needfull, considering the danger that may ensue by their too great familiarity, they being naturally the most dangerous and worst people of all his *Majesties* Dominions: and that there be a special care, that they marry one with another in the Island, or with the *English* or *Scotch*, and in any case to prohibit all marriage betwixt them and the *Highlanders*, as afore said.

I Have annexed hereunto, as you see, what I think fitting to be put in present execution for planting the Islands of *Hebrides*; which being done, all the good mentioned before will follow upon it, besides other things which I forbear to touch, as matters of State, and too high for me to meddle with.

I have at length brought my intention to an end, and laid open the mischiefs our State hath long suffered by neglecting Fishing, which the *Hollanders* have made good use of to themselves: I have made appear how easie it is to enrich our selves by it, and to restore our selves unto what we have lost, and shewed the profit all kinds of people may reap by it, if Will and Money be not wanting: I have made it plain to as many as desire the truth, that the increase of Shipping in *Europe* is occasioned by the taking and transporting of our Fish, that 9000. *Holland* Vessels are begot out of it, and all their people daily set on

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work by it; inasmuch as I dare boldly say, if the feeding upon Fish were prohibited all sorts of Christians, and the Command duly observed, it would lessen the number of Shipping three parts in five.

And therefore, seeing that our *Fish* is able to make us happy, and this Narration laies down the way how to attain to that Happinesse, let neither Excuses, Calumnies, false pretences, or affection to the *Hollanders* divert us from it, as it did in the year 1609. when by Proclamation the *Hollanders* were bound to resort to the City of *London* for licence to fish upon the Coast of *England*, and to *Edenburgh* for the like liberty in *Scotland*, yet neither of these two things were performed, nor the Contempt questioned.

Two hundred Usurers, with willing minds and forward purses, are able to master this work: but I fear the Devil will not allow them a Gain so well gotten. The excessive practice of Usurie is the decay of Commonwealths, repugnant to all Humanity, Charity, and natural benevolence; and a slavery to themselves, who desire to live poor, and to die rich.

But to speak truth, it is pity that a work of so great good and gain should have to doe with men of so penurious a Condition, who are neither good nor evil by the disposition of another, but by their own perverse will and nature. God, I fear, will blesse our actions the worse for them, that are like trees that bear no blossoms in the Spring, and therefore no fruit at the Fall.

This work is unspotted, and pittie it should be defiled with the sin of Avarice. His *Majesties* Greatnesse and Glory will appear by it: For nothing can be to a *Prince* more Royal and renowned, then to make the State of his Realm better then when he found it, and of idle and slothfull persons to make profitable members to a Commonwealth.

F I N I S